
CENTRAL REGIONAL COUNCIL ON WORKFORCE SERVICES
Department of Workforce Services
1385 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 16, 2006
12:30 p.m.

Presiding: Paul Jackson, Chair

Present: Aida Castrillo, LaRay Brown, Charles Daud, Greg Diven,
Norman Fitzgerald, Colleen Fraser, Nancy Malecker, Jon Pierpont,
Kevin Schofield, Susan Smith, Kerry Steadman

Absent: Kent Anderson, Allan Ayoub, Tony Gomez, Ali Wilkinson

Excused: Heidi Ballif, Councilman Jim Bradley, Senator Brent Goodfellow,
Ben Graham, John Hill, Parley Jacobs (for Dr. Stephen Ronnenkamp),
Commissioner Colleen Johnson, Doug Johnston, Akilah Messado,
Steven Rosenberg, Karen Silver, Gordon Swensen, Ballard Veater

Guests: Dale Brockbank-Veteran's Affairs, Franz Feierbach (for Scott Snelson),
Scott Steele-DWS Chief of Veteran's Affairs

Staff: Karla Aguirre, Diane Lovell, Laurel Morris, Mary Peterson,
Robyn Thomas

Paul Jackson called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm. He began by welcoming Franz Feierbach, representing Scott Snelson who is unable to be at today's meeting due to another commitment. He is nominated to replace Linda Fife on Central Region Council. Chairman Jackson also recognized those who were unable to be at today's meeting, particularly Karen Silver with a recent death in the family and those who were ill and/or had a conflict.

1. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Jackson asked for a motion to approve the September 28, 2006 Regional Council minutes. Norman Fitzgerald motioned to approve the minutes as written. Susan Smith seconded the motion. All voted "Aye". The motion carried.

2. Approval of New Member Nominees

Council members received copies of new member applications via email. Tab 3 in packets contains a copy of the current membership noting four business/private sector vacancies. Chairman Jackson deferred taking action on Scott Snelson, Campus President, Salt Lake Tooele Applied Technology College and Heidi Ballif, Vice President Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce until next meeting.

3. Training Provider Applications

Norman Fitzgerald presented two Training Providers Applications to Council which includes:

- **Tech Skills – Requesting three new courses – Norman Fitzgerald motioned to defer this request subject to the recertification review in July, 2007. Charles Daud seconded the motion. All voted “Aye”. The motion carried.**
- **Upper Limit Aviation – Initial Application – Norman Fitzgerald motioned to approve Upper Limit Aviation as a Training Provider. Kevin Schofield seconded. All voted “Aye”. The motion carried.**

4. Veterans Services Update

Norman Fitzgerald, Veterans Advocate for Central Region requested an annual update of the Veterans program and what they do for DWS.

Scott Steele, DWS Chief of Veteran’s Affairs, provided the overview of the Veterans program. A few of the issues reported on were this past year those who deal with the Veterans programs across the nation had the opportunity to attend training from the National Veterans Training Institute (NVTI). The training was for Supervisors, Managers and Directors and provided an enhanced awareness of the importance of the Veterans program. Also launched this spring was the Key to Career Success Campaign to help the Veterans understand the assistance that is available to them within Workforce Services.

The Outreach efforts that pertain to the Veterans and with the help of Senator Goodfellow, some inroads were made at the Salt Lake Community College in two different locations where Vet Reps go on a regular basis. This has created an excellent opportunity to provide services and contacts to Veterans.

With the support of Jon Pierpont, space was made available within our Employment Centers to the Disabled American Veterans Organization as well as the Veteran representative from Weber State College who provides tutoring services to the Veterans.

The Annual Training Event was held last month for Vet Reps and their supporting staff. Approximately 80 attended the training which was an excellent turnout. Senator Jake Garn was the keynote speaker at this event.

Mr. Steele provided a handout of the program outcomes with a comparison of the Veterans program and the general population. They are currently involved in an ongoing program where they are doing a greater outreach to be in contact with the older Veterans to encourage the use of these services.

A slight reduction from the Federal Government was made in the Veterans Ramp which required adjustments to two of the Vet Rep positions. One was made in Central Region and one in the North Region. Both are doing part-time Veterans work rather than full-time work.

A handout of current Veterans Representatives was also distributed.

Dale Brockbank, U.S. Department of Labor –Veteran Improvement Training Services also shared a few remarks. He provided a brochure with a non-technical resource guide to the USERRA (Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act). This included information from the U.S. Department of Labor Veteran’s Employment and Training Service.

Mr. Brockbank and Norman Fitzgerald both thanked Jon Pierpont for the support and cooperation the Veterans receive from Central Region.

5. Director’s Report and One Stop Homeless Presentation

The One Stop Homeless presentation was deferred to the Regional Council meeting in December as this information is very critical for all Council members to hear.

Karla Aguirre reviewed the current “At-a Glance” report. An updated copy of this report was provided to all in attendance. A “Goal” column has been added as per Council’s request. As to date, the FEP Participation for October is not reflected on this report. This information will be included on the next report. Ms. Aguirre asked if there was any additional information requested on future reports.

Kerry Steadman asked about new applications for services with the economy doing so well and if we see trends; and, is the request for public assistance related to the economy. Mr. Pierpont noted that we are taking approximately the same amount of new applications as in the past four years with the overall caseload trending down in all programs. General Assistance was put on hold for the legislators to discuss further. Mr. Kerry Steadman asked for more detail on certain trends once a year.

Jon Pierpont introduced Diane Lovell and her new assignment in the department. Diane has done an excellent job in coordinating the Council and will be missed. She has been an example to rely on and an excellent confident. Her new position will be the Community Liaison working with the Executive Management team.

Greg Diven also recognized Diane and her willingness and passion to step up and make things better. He wished her well in her new assignment and that she has been a real pleasure to work with.

Paul Jackson presented Diane with a token of appreciation from Central Region Council and staff and paid tribute to a good friend. He expressed how Diane reaches out for ways to benefit others and make things better.

Diane noted her appreciation for the opportunity to work with Council, the kind words expressed and the gifts received. She is excited for the new opportunity but will miss those she works with.

Several others expressed their thanks for everything Diane has done to continually help make their commitment to Council better. When it comes to the end of the day, it is the people you meet along the way and Diane Lovell is one of those individuals.

Lastly, Mr. Jackson noted the email sent asking for food for the Food Bank and the opportunity to help those who are less fortunate. He thanked everyone for their generosity for sharing. The box will be left in the lobby for others to add to.

6. Executive Roundtable Committee Report

Greg Diven noted two very successful meetings. One held on October 24th for Automotive Technical Services Summit where 30 educators attended and were updated on the progress. The success of the Motorfest was discussed with still more to do. November 1st the Construction Roundtable was held where over 45 attended. The initial items were discussed and the challenge with having a 2.5% unemployment rate. The follow-up activities were identified.

Plans are underway to revisit the Manufacturing Roundtable and perhaps having a Biotechnology Roundtable. Biotechnology has difficulty recruiting employees and we are exploring ways to help in this area.

Paul Jackson and Norm Fitzgerald noted the amazing things happening with the Roundtables and how great the effort and accomplishments have been. Chairman Jackson noted that he was in another setting where reference was made to the Department of Workforce Service and the roundtables as it pertains to the high school graduation requirements and accomplishments.

7. Chairman's Report

Paul Jackson reported on the Council of Councils held on October 12th which was well attended. There was an emphasis on youth and at lunchtime there were Door Openers where GE Capital worked with high school students by bringing the youth in for a day to work and tap into the job market in creative ways (youth mentoring initiative). One special presentation was from a young lady who was once in foster care herself and how she was able to gain employment and improve herself through these services.

At the State Council meeting a recommendation was introduced to submit a request waiver from DOL that would allow Utah to set aside up to 50% of its WIA funding next year to support Incumbent Worker Training in targeted sectors. Mr. Pierpont noted that in January at the State Council meeting to be aware that if funds are moved up to 50% it puts the region in a position where if we have limited dollars to train people coming into our centers we find ourselves in a position turning off and on the faucet and losing ground with training services being delivered and staffing to keep skills sharp. We don't want to limit ourselves for those on the low income end seeking training as an option and need to find a balance as we move forward. A full report and discussion by Connie Laws, DWS Program Manager will take place at the December Council meeting.

Lastly, Mr. Pierpont noted that as we develop an Incumbent Worker Training program, to keep in mind how do we go about supporting local business utilizing those funds. A portion is to serve Central Region Employers.

Annual reports were distributed at the Council of Council and all members should have received one with today's Council packet. Additional copies are available if needed.

Mr. Jackson referred to the 2007 Legislative Briefing handout and noted what some of the challenges have been:

- 1) Allowing the department to work through the legislative issues and get on the Governors priority list.
- 2) As Mike Richardson and others view the legislative strategy it is important that the message gets in front of the key people. As soon as the information is received, an email will be sent to the Council asking for help contacting legislative leaders, specifically regarding General Assistance and Childcare funding.

8. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

9. New Business

There was no new business to report.

10. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Charles motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 pm.